

NEIGHBOURHOOD GUIDE

Rossio, Baixa

Lisbon, Portugal · Residentas Arco do Bandeira

Rossio is Lisbon's great public square — the living room of the city. Surrounded by Pombaline architecture, the square has been the centre of Lisbon life since the 13th century. From here you can walk to virtually everything: the waterfront in 10 minutes, Bairro Alto uphill in 15, Alfama in 20. This guide covers the best of Rossio, Baixa, and the streets in between.

Coffee & Breakfast

A Brasileira do Rossio

The less-famous sibling of the Chiado original. Order a bica at the counter — half the price of table service. Praça Dom Pedro IV.

Confeitaria Nacional

Founded in 1829. One of the oldest pastelarias in Lisbon. The pastéis de nata here are criminally underrated. Praça da Figueira 18.

→ *Avoid the cafés with laminated photo menus on Rossio square itself — they charge tourist prices. Walk one street back for the same coffee at half the cost.*

Lunch & Dinner

Solar dos Presuntos

Old-school Lisbon tasca. The caldo verde and bacalhau à brás are benchmarks. Book ahead. Rua das Portas de Santo Antão 150.

Cervejaria Ramiro

The best shellfish in Lisbon. Go late (after 9pm) to avoid queues. Take the prego at the end as dessert. Av. Almirante Reis 1.

Taberna da Rua das Flores

Natural wines, small plates, perfect for a long lunch. Rua das Flores 103.

→ *Rua das Portas de Santo Antão (one block from Rossio) is the city's restaurant row — walk the whole street before choosing.*

Exploring on Foot

Elevador de Santa Justa

The iron lift designed by a student of Eiffel. Go early morning to skip the queue. Views over the Baixa rooftops.

Rua Augusta Arch

Walk through it to reach the waterfront Praça do Comércio. Free, always open.

Livraria Bertrand

The world's oldest operating bookshop (1732). Worth stepping inside even if you don't buy. Rua Garrett 73.

→ *The best photos of Rossio are from the Miradouro de São Pedro de Alcântara — a 15-minute uphill walk through Bairro Alto.*

Practical

Getting around

Rossio station connects directly to Sintra (40 min, €2.35). The green metro line stops at Rossio. Trams 28 and 12 pass nearby.

Supermarket

Pingo Doce on Rua 1 de Dezembro — open daily. Better value than the tourist shops on Rua Augusta.

Pharmacy

Farmácia Estácio, Rossio 62. Open late on weekdays.

BOOK DIRECT FOR THE BEST RATE

Your base in Rossio

Residentas Arco do Bandeira puts you at the heart of this guide. Book directly at residentas.com for the lowest rate, flexible cancellation, and a welcome bottle of wine.